

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 OES-07 DLOS-09 CPR-01
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 ACDA-07 /083 W
-----117459 301933Z /43

R 301720Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7598
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 REYKJAVIK 1195

PLEASE PASS TO WHITE HOUSE

FROM AMBASSADOR BENNETT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MPOL
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION

1. AT CLOSE OF SUCCESSFUL ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION CON-
FERENCE HERE IN REYKJAVIK, I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL
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APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO THE ASSOCI-
ATION AND FOR EFFORTS IN DEPARTMENT AND WHITE HOUSE THAT
WENT INTO ITS PREPARATION. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WITH ITS
STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL COMMITMENT TO NORTH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY
AND TO NATO STRATEGY OF FORWARD DEFENSE AND FLEXIBLE
RESPONSE WAS EASILY THE HIGH POINT OF THE MEETING AND IT IS
QUOTED PROMINENTLY IN FINAL RESOLUTION OF MEETING. IT

BROUGHT AN ENORMOUS LIFT OF SPIRIT TO THESE LONG-TIME SUPPORTERS OF NATO FROM THE PRIVATE SECTION OF ALL 15 MEMBER COUNTRIES. IN MY OPINION, THIS FIRM AND FORTHRIGHT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ACHIEVED PURPOSE OF REASSURING THESE WESTERN ALLIES AS TO IMPORTANCE OF NATO TO US FOREIGN POLICY, AND SHOULD SERVE TO REINVIGORATE THEIR OWN EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR NATO IN THEIR COUNTRIES.

2. THE READING IN THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER BY THE GERMAN PRESIDENT OF ATA, KARL MOMMER BROUGHT LENGTHY APPLAUSE. DELEGATES WERE UNANIMOUS IN THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF HOPE THAT THE STATEMENT WOULD BE GIVEN WIDE PUBLICATION IN ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES. THE HEAD OF THE FRG DELEGATION, M.P. RICHARD JAEGER, ROSE TO HAIL CARTER MESSAGE AND TO UNDERLINE ITS IMPORTANCE IN COUNTERING RECENT NEGATIVE PRESS COMMENTS RELATIVE TO US STRATEGY AND RESOLVE IN EUROPE. HEAD OF DANISH DELEGATION TOOK ME ASIDE TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF STATEMENT; HE FORESAW ITS CONTINUING USEFULNESS IN DENMARK IN COMBATTING ANTI-NATO ELEMENTS AND IN REASSURING THOSE WHO HAD BEEN DISHEARTENED BY RECENT UNFAVORABLE PRESS. THIS WAS COMMON THEME AMONG DELEGATE COMMENTS.

3. NOT LEAST, THIS EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO NATO WAS GREATLY HEARTENING TO US DELEGATION, SOME OF WHOM SUCH AS GENE ROSTOW, TED ACHILLES AND FRAN
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WILCOX HAVE BEEN LABORING IN NATO VINEYARD FOR ALMOST THREE DECADES. THEY FELT SUSTAINED BY THEIR GOVERNMENT.

4. ANOTHER HIGH POINT OF MEETING WAS THE APPEARANCE FOR THE FIRST TIME AT AN ATA MEETING OF A SPANISH REPRESENTATIVE. ATA LEADERSHIP HAD SENT INVITATIONS TO SPANISH DEMOCRATIC PARTIES TO BE REPRESENTED BY OBSERVERS, AND ONE MEMBER OF CORTES DE MORA, ATTENDED. HE WAS GREETED EMOTIONALLY IN PLENARY SESSION BY PRESIDENT MOMMER, WHO DESCRIBED OCCASION AS "AN HISTORIC MOMENT IN NORTH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY," AND HE WAS WARMLY RECEIVED EVERYWHERE. MOMMER EXPLAINED ATTENDANCE BY ONLY ONE SPANISH REPRESENTATIVE BY SAYING THAT INVITATIONS TO SPAIN WERE LATE IN GOING OUT; HE HOPES FOR LARGER SPANISH PARTICIPATION NEXT TIME.

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R 301720Z AUG 77
FM MEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7599
INNO RUQMGU/AMEMBASSH ANKARA 168
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 REYKJAVIK 1195

5. OTHER DEVELOPMENTS WORTHY OF MENTION IN THIS
BRIEF PERSONAL SUMMARY WERE STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF PRESIENT'S
STAND
ON HUMAND RIGHTS BY SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS IN
HIS OPENING ADDRESS AND BH NUMEROUS OTHER DELEGATES. A
PASSAGE IN THE FINAL RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE MEETING

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EMPHASIZES "THE NEED TO UPHOLD AND PROTECT HUMAN
RIGHTS AS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE." SECGENERAL LUNS
ALSO TOUTLY DEFENDED THE NEUTRON BOMB AS REDUCING
THE RISK TO CIVILIAN POPULATIONS IN EVENT OF WAR.
HEAD OF GERMAN DELEGATION ALSO SPOKE OUT VIGOROUSLY

TO SUPPORT CONCEPT OF NEUTRON BOMB.

6. BOTH GREEK AND TURKISH DELEGATIONS ACTED WITH

MORE THAN USUAL RESTRAINT IN THEIR DISPUTES AND FINAL
RESOLUTION LANGUAGE

REFLECTS THAT. MEMBERS OF US
DELEGATION ARE ANXIOUS TO BE HELPFUL IN PERSUADING
US CONGRESS TO MOVE ON TURKISH MILITARY AID AND WILL

PERHAPS BE APPROACHING DEPARTMENT IN THIS CONNECTION;
BLAKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, ALLIANCE, TEXT, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977REYKJA01195
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770313-0901
Format: TEL
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977088/aaaaaghs.tel
Line Count: 182
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a162635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1656629
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION
TAGS: MPOL, PPDC, US, NATO, ATA, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a162635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009